

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1 to 6, 21, 22, and 24 to 27 will be pending in the present patent application. Claims 7 to 20 and 23 have been withdrawn without prejudice to their presentation in a later divisional patent application. Claims 1 to 6 have been amended, without prejudice to the presentation of the deleted subject matter in a later divisional patent application. Claims 24 to 27 have been added. Claims 24 to 27 are directed to the elected subject matter.

Discussion of Election/Restriction Requirement Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121

Although Applicants continue to disagree with the Examiner's position regarding the imposed election/restriction requirement, Applicants have amended the claims for the sole purpose of advancing the prosecution of the present patent application.

Applicants request respectfully that, upon identification of allowable subject matter of the product claims, the non-elected method of use claims commensurate in scope with the allowed product claims be rejoined in accordance with MPEP § 821.04. If such should occur, Applicants request the opportunity to further amend the rejoined method claims prior to their examination.

Request to Correct Inventorship Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b)

Applicants request that inventor Ramalinga Dharanipragada be deleted from the originally submitted inventive entity pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b). Mr. Dharanipragada's invention is no longer being claimed in the present patent application as a result of the foregoing amendments. Accordingly, his name should be deleted from the inventive entity.

This Request is accompanied by the appropriate fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 in the name of Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Action of record and the allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. If there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (908) 231-3410.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 in the name of Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Respectfully submitted,


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